

# Sports

## Playing ball with Hunter hoopsters

**Nondice Powell**  
*Hunter Army Airfield*

Members of Hunter Army Airfield's eight-and-under youth basketball team took on the Jewish Educational Alliance Feb. 15 at the Jewish Community Center in Savannah. Even though the number of baskets doesn't matter according to the league format, the children try to keep track of how many points they score.

The game was part of Hunter Army Airfield youth sports programs designed to provide athletic opportunities to the military community children. In the program, youths play basketball with the Jewish Educational Alliance and baseball with the

Habersham YMCA.

"I got six and a half," said five-year old Roger Morton. "I did it all by myself."

"I got 18 points," said five year old James Curtis.

"It was like six or seven," said six year old Braven Walker. "Last time I scored six, but I scored five for today."

While the number of points they score may not be accurate, the children could all agree on one thing - they enjoy playing basketball.

"We're having fun," said seven year old Nia Gray.

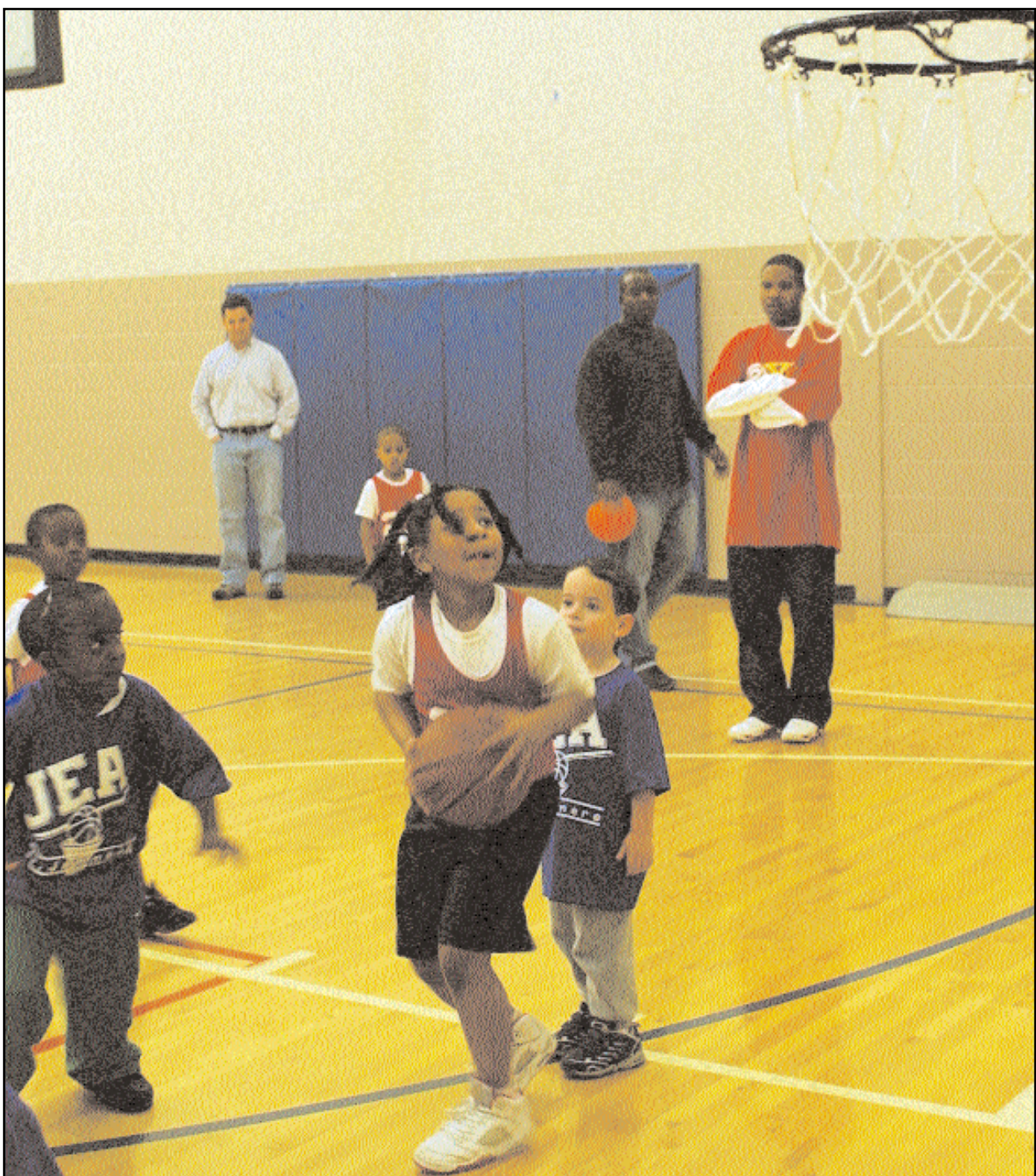
"I like to run up and down the court with my teammates," said five year old Gabriel Person.

"I love basketball," Curtis said.



**Above:** Children warm up as Hunter Army Airfield's eight-and-under basketball team took to the court at the Jewish Community Center in Savannah on Feb. 15.

**Below:** Number 30, seven-year-old Nia Gray, number 11, six-year-old Ray Bess Jr., and number 13, six-year-old Braven Walker, attempt to block a shot by one of the members of the Jewish Educational Alliance team.



Photos by Nondice Powell

**Above:** Seven-year-old Nia Gray prepares to attempt a basket at the eight-and-under youth basketball game on Feb. 15 at the Jewish Community Center in Savannah. Gray is one of the young hoopsters on the Hunter Army Airfield team.



## Army storms Nascar, takes second at Daytona 500



Photo by Lt. Col Sean Clark

### Staff Report

Soldiers and civilians were awed by the finish of this year's Daytona 500 Feb. 18 as number "01", United States Army Chevrolet, battled it out with the number "29", Shell/Pennzoil car, 'til the final flag.

Soldiers from 3220th Garrison, supporting the Mobilization Operations Center at Fort Stewart, were on hand to witness as Kevin Harvick, driving the number 29 car,

edged out Mark Martin, driving for Army, by two tenths of a second.

The checkered flag waiving finale was recorded as the closest Daytona-500 finish since the advent of computerized scoring, according to [www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com](http://www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com).

The race summary showed how Harvick, who started 34th, the lowest starting position for a Daytona winner, moved up through heavy competition to the final battle with Martin.

Harvick's victory was Richard Childress Racing's first Daytona 500 win since Dale Earnhardt in 1998, according to [www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com](http://www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com).

Aside from picking up a couple of Daytona 500 records, the win earned more than \$1.5 million for Harvick's first place finish

Rounding out the rest of Daytona's top five finishers were Jeff Burton in third, Mike Wallace in fourth, and David Ragan in fifth.



# 2007 INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL

## SCHEDULE, STANDINGS

### Basketball Standings

#### Southeastern Conference

	Won	Lost	PCT
A Co 703d BSB	8	3	0.727
HHC 4/3 BSTB	5	4	0.555
15 ASOS	3	3	0.500
HHB 1/9 FA	3	3	0.500
D Co 3/7 Inf	4	4	0.500
E Co 26th BSB	1	2	0.333
E Co 1/64 AR	1	3	0.250

#### Liberty Conference

	Won	Lost	PCT
1/30 Inf	3	0	1.000
HHC 2d BCT	5	1	0.833
B Co 4/64 AR	2	3	0.500
D Trp 3/7 Cav	2	3	0.400
F Co 26 BSB	2	3	0.400
B 1/9 FA	1	3	0.250
E Co 3/7 Inf	0	0	0.000

#### Freedom Conference

	Won	Lost	PCT
A Co 3d BSB	7	1	0.875
135th QM Co	7	1	0.875
DET 2/3 SIG Co	7	2	0.777
G Co 703 BSB	7	2	0.777
HHC 3/7 Inf	4	3	0.571
A Btry 1/41 FA	4	4	0.500
D Co 703 BSB	3	6	0.333
B Co 2/3 BTB	2	4	0.333
HQ Co 1/306th Inf	2	4	0.333
HHB 1/64 AR	2	7	0.222
HHB 1/64 AR	2	7	0.222
HHC 26 BSB	0	4	0.000

#### Hunter AFF Conference

	Won	Lost	PCT
A Co 603d ASB	10	0	1.000
B Co 603d ASB	12	1	0.923
DFAC	10	2	0.833
E Co 3/3 Avn	6	2	0.750
C Co 2/3 Avn	8	3	0.727
512 QM Co	7	3	0.700
Avn BDE	7	5	0.583
E Co 1/3 Avn	4	3	0.571
Corps of Eng	5	8	0.385
514 Eng	4	7	0.364
C Co 603 ASB	2	10	0.167
HHC 160 SOAR	3	15	0.167
202 QM Co	0	13	0.000

## Navy holds off Army, 76-58

#### Army Athletic Communications

ANNAPOLIS, Md. – Greg Sprink scored nine of his game-high 19 points in the last 1:29 to help Navy hold on for a 76-68 victory over Army in the annual “Star” game Saturday afternoon in front of 5,247 spectators at Alumni Hall.

Trey Stanton added 15 points and Kaleo Kina chipped in 14 points for the Midshipmen, who improve to 14-13 (4-8 Patriot League).

Army (13-14, 3-9 Patriot League) was led by Jarell Brown, who tallied a team-high 18 points. Matt Bell and Doug Williams each added 16 points apiece for the Black Knights, who dropped their seventh straight game.

Six points by Adam Teague jump-started a 12-4 Navy scoring run that turned a 35-35 game at the 15:21 mark into a 47-39 Midshipmen lead with 11:40 to play. Navy did not trail the rest of the way en route to splitting the season series with Army.

A 9-7 Army push, which was capped by five straight points by Cleveland Richard, made the score 54-48 with 7:27 to play.

A trey by Teague out of the left corner began a brief 6-2 Navy burst that gave the Midshipmen a 60-50 cushion with 5:02 remaining in the second half.

Army cut Navy’s lead down to four points at 72-68 with 23 seconds left fol-

lowing a triple by Brown, but the Black Knights could get no closer.

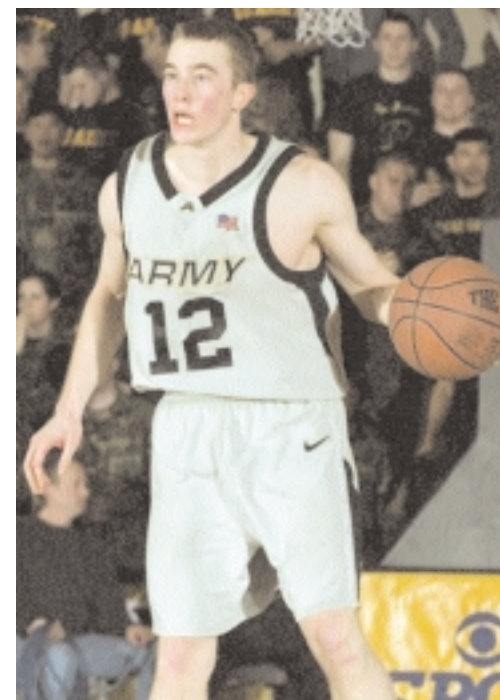
“Navy is very difficult to defend,” said Army head coach Jim Crews. “Their post players shoot the three-point jumper very well and that spreads out a defense. We did a great job defending Greg Sprink in the first half, but he destroyed us in the second half.

“I thought we did some very good things on offense, but we just didn’t finish off enough plays. We had a lot of opportunities throughout the game, but we just couldn’t get over the hump. I thought we were very close to doing some really good things, but we just could finish things off.”

After Navy opened up a 32-26 lead following a three-pointer by Stanton to start the second half, Army took off on a 9-3 run to knot the score at 35-35 with 15:21 to play. It marked the first tie of the game since the score was even at 9-9 midway through the first half.

Army controlled play early on, jumping out to a 9-5 at the 14:34 mark following a three-pointer by Brown. Navy raced back with a 13-1 run, ignited by seven consecutive points by Kina, to give the Midshipmen an 18-10 lead with 7:55 left before halftime.

Six straight points by Williams trimmed Navy’s lead to 18-16 at the 6:33 mark, before a quick 5-2 Navy spurt gave the Midshipmen a 23-18



**Matt Bell**

advantage with 4:55 to play. Army outscored Navy 8-6 to end the period and trailed, 29-26, at the half.

Army was led in the first stanza by Brown, who tallied eight points. Kina paced Navy in the opening 20 minutes with eight points.

Army returns to Christl Arena for the final two games of the regular season. The Black Knights kick off their brief two-game home stand on Wednesday, Feb. 21, when they host Lafayette at 7 p.m.

#### LIBERTY CONFERENCE

Schedules	1/30th Inf. vs E Co., 3/7th Inf.	6:30 p.m.	Feb. 22
	B Btry., 19th FA vs D Co., 3/7th Cav.	7:30 p.m.	Feb. 22
	B Co., 4/64th AR vs F Co., 26th BSB	8:30 p.m.	Feb. 22
	F Co., 26th BSB vs D Co., 3/7th Cav.	7:30 p.m.	Feb. 26
	B Btry., 19th FA vs B Co., 4/64th AR	8:30 p.m.	Feb. 26
	1/30th Inf. vs F Co., 26th BSB	7:30 p.m.	Feb. 28
	HHC, 2nd BCT vs D Co., 3/7th Cav.	8:30 p.m.	Feb. 28
	E Co. 3/7th Inf. vs F Co., 26th BSB	6:30 p.m.	Mar. 1
	HHC, 2nd BCT vs B Co., 4/64th AR	7:30 p.m.	Mar. 1
	1/30th Inf. vs B Btry., 1/9th FA	8:30 p.m.	Mar. 1
	B Co., 4/64th AR vs 1/30th Inf.	6:30 p.m.	Mar. 5
	F Co., 26th BSB vs HHC, 2nd BCT	7:30 p.m.	Mar. 5
	D Co., 3/7th Cav. vs E Co., 3/7th Inf.	8:30 p.m.	Mar. 5

#### SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

E Co. 1/64th AR vs HHB, 1/9th FA	6:30 p.m.	Feb. 26
E Co., 26th BSB vs HHB, 1/9th FA	6:30 p.m.	Feb. 28

#### FREEDOM CONFERENCE

135th QM Co. vs 2/3rd Sig. Co.	6:30 p.m.	Feb. 26
HHC, 26th BSB vs B Co., 2/3 BTB	7:30 p.m.	Feb. 26
D Co., 703rd BSB vs HHC, 3/7th Inf.	8:30 p.m.	Feb. 26



# Liberty seeing youth talent for spring baseball, track

**John Deike**

*Coastal Courier Staff writer*

With spring quickly approaching, various Liberty County High School teams, including the baseball and track teams, are gearing up for what should be a promising and exciting season for 2007.

Steve Cotrell, the Panthers varsity baseball coach, is confident that his mostly young, but talented team can outperform the tough opponents they will face as their season commences against Wayne County on Feb. 27 at 5:30 p.m.

"We are going to have a lot of sophomores and juniors playing, but I believe it is the most talent we have had in a while. I know the nine guys we will have on the field will be able to play some competitive baseball," Cotrell explained.

He was very hopeful of his pitching roster composed of four players who will be able to sling the ball into the middle and upper 80 mile per hour range.

Two of these pitching hopefuls are Skyler and Aaron Hoffer who will not disappoint the crowd because Skyler will be the starting pitcher and Aaron will finish games as the closer.

In spite of the Panthers losing a tie breaker that would have taken them to the regional playoffs last season, Cotrell was pleased with the way they performed in 2006 because it gave his team experience and shed light on what they needed to improve upon.

"In terms of the infield this year, I hope we can make some more routine plays. We had some great defense, but it is important to keep our play consistent this year to give us an advantage," Cotrell said.

Cotrell looks forward to playing such rivals as South Effingham, Benedictine, Burke County and Richmond Hill, but he emphasized that South Effingham was the team to beat.

According to Cotrell, they have a lot of skill, and it is just a matter of polishing that skill to have them perform well on the field.

For track and field, second year boys coach Keith McGee is optimistic due to some able runners who can make a difference this year.

Yet, McGee wanted to emphasize how important his new coaching staff is as he brings on assistant coach Emery Vickers and first year girl's coach Laura Means.

"The best addition to our team this year is coach Vickers. He graduated from here, he was a legend while here, he ran college track and he has a good way with the kids," McGee said.

He and Vickers are ready to see how a few key runners perform, especially sophomore



John Deike

**Among the young guns LCHS baseball coach Steve Cotrell is counting on are (l-r) Erik Mattingly, Paul Davis, Robert Walsh, Aaron Hoffer and Justin Eaton.**

Roderick Jones who is expected to break 11 seconds in the 100-meter.

"Really, I just think we have a lot of hard working kids on the team, and hard work can take you further than just a little bit of ability," Vickers said.

Other hopefuls from McGee's lineup include Demetrius Stenson who may break 50 seconds in the 400 meter, along with Keith Lemay, Tim Ashman and Chris Cary who will round out a competitive four-by-four team.

"As last year was my first season with the Panthers track team after leaving Arizona, I realized it would be a transitional time," McGee said. "To make some corrections, we implemented a set amount of practices so the team can be prepared for their first meet on Feb. 23."

Coach Means is getting her girls ready for the 23rd and she explained that, "I'm just looking forward to how far our girls get, and how hard they work to achieve their goals for the upcoming meets."



## Bradwell Tigers warm up for season, scrimmage Bryan County Friday

**Patty Leon**

*Coastal Courier Staff writer*

The Bradwell Tigers baseball team has begun workouts and practice in preparation for an upcoming scrimmage against Bryan County on Feb. 23.

Head coach Rhett Hellgren and assistant coach Jeff Eastlake were putting their players through a series of exercises Feb. 15, despite school being out, to get them up to speed for the upcoming season.

"We have a young team, made up mostly

of juniors right now, it's about getting them out here to learn techniques and get them some experience," Eastlake explained.

The Tigers will face some tough opponents this season, and coach Hellgren wants his players to be ready for the challenge.

"It's all about consistency and committing no errors, if you reduce errors you have a better chance at winning," he said.

Both coaches were primarily focused on watching their players to determine each participant's abilities and weaknesses.

Courtesy Photo

**Bradwell Tigers warm up for their new season.**



# Black Knights whips Navy, 58-43 in 'Trophy Game'

## Army Athletic Communications

ANNAPOLIS, Md. – Army captured its fourth straight “Trophy Game” victory over Navy, 58-43, Sunday afternoon at Alumni Hall in Annapolis, Md. The Black Knights earned a split in the yearly series with the Midshipmen and evened the overall series at 24-apiece.

Four Black Knights finished in double figures, led by Alex McGuire and Jen Hansen's 14 points each. Cara Enright finished with 11 points. Courtney Wright registered her first career double-double with 10 points and a game-high 14 rebounds.

Army improved to 22-5 overall and 9-3 in the Patriot League, while Navy slipped to 10-16, 4-8 in the league. Army's victory Sunday set a new standard for wins at the Division I level. The previous mark (21) was set during the 1980-81 season.

Army's senior class of Erin Begonia, Jillian Busch, Joanne Carelus and Hansen, have never lost to Navy in the “Trophy Game” during their four years at the Academy.

“A lot of our offensive game plan was to go inside,” head coach Dave Magarity said. “We kept going in there, and our guards did a great job of making the extra pass. I thought our execution was great at times.”

Army ran out to a 9-0 lead during the first 3:09 forcing Navy to burn a timeout at the 16:50 mark of the first half. The Midshipmen answered with a 6-0 run following the break in action, cutting the Black Knights' advantage to 9-6 at the 13:48 mark.

Army quickly extended its lead to 13 points, 19-6, on a 10-0 spurt taking just 3:25 off the clock. McGuire and Hansen each had three points during the run as four Black Knights chipped in. Following Wright's basket to cap the spurt at the 10:11 mark, neither team could muster a point for the ensuing 3:28. Army finally broke through first as Enright knocked down the first of two free throw attempts with 6:43 remaining in the half.

Army extended its lead to 22-6 after Wright made a lay-up in the middle of traffic under the rim, while Navy was in the midst of a 7:55

scoreless stretch. Kate Hobbs finally ended the drought for the Midshipmen as she had a jumper at the 5:53 mark.

Army took its largest advantage of the first half, 30-11, with 2:13 remaining as it outscored Navy 8-3 during the 3:40 following Hobbs' basket. The Mids scored four points, all by Carly Meyer, during the closing two minutes of the stanza and trailed Army by 15, 30-15, at halftime.

The 15 points given up by the Black Knights during the first half tied the mark for the fewest points allowed to an opponent during either half this season. Army also only allowed Columbia 15 points during the first half of that contest on Dec. 7, 2006.

McGuire led all scorers at intermission with 10 points, while Wright was halfway to a double-double with six points and five rebounds.

The two squads began the second stanza going up and down the court trading basket-for-basket. Navy finally broke the pace as Meyer followed a Lindi Conner lay-up with a three-pointer at the 10:51 mark, cutting the Army lead to 11, 42-31. The 11-point differential was the closest the Midshipmen had been to the Black Knights since the 11:16 mark during the first half.

Hobbs, who led Navy with seven points at halftime registered her fourth foul during the first three minutes of the second half and was forced to watch from the bench until she re-entered at the 8:41 mark.

Hobbs' impact was immediately felt by Navy as the Midshipmen went on a 6-2 run, spurred by two treys, chipping the deficit to 10, 49-39, with 6:43 remaining in the contest. Hobbs eventually fouled out of the game at the 2:25 mark, after Army ran its advantage back to 16, 55-39.

Army was successful on three of its four free throw attempts during the final two minutes to secure the 58-43 victory.

Meyer led Navy scorers with 18 points, while Margaret Knap added 10. Meyer, Betsy Burnett, Knap and Morgan Hill all grabbed five rebounds.

Army has now secured at least the No. 2 seed in the Patriot League Tournament with the win.

**“A lot of our offensive game plan was to go inside... we kept going in there, and our guards did a great job of making the extra pass.”**

*Dave Magarity  
head coach*



*Jen hansen*